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**The Associated Students of The University of Montana
Resolution Regarding an Increase to the Montana Kaimin Fee**

April 8, 2009

Senate Bill Number 53-08/09

Authored by: Joseph Licitra, Montana Kaimin Business Manager

Sponsored by: Trevor Hunter, ASUM President

WHEREAS, the Montana Kaimin has incurred increased expenses due to the sharply raising cost of newsprint and printing costs;

WHEREAS, the Montana Kaimin has experienced a significant increase in wages paid due to the minimum wage increases that have occurred regularly over the last couple of years;

WHEREAS, the Montana Kaimin along with other news agencies are under constant pressure to report the news earlier, more concisely and by electronic media;

WHEREAS, the Montana Kaimin has begun researching the needs, costs, and information required to develop our web site along with consideration to work in partnership with other agencies and businesses in the community to create a site where students can go for current news, events and information;

WHEREAS, the Montana Kaimin could realize a new revenue stream by updating their website and selling online advertising for said website;

WHEREAS, the Montana Kaimin has worked to meet the requests of readers by adding the Sudoku puzzle to the paper this semester;

WHEREAS, the Montana Kaimin, having a \$261,000 budget, must maintain responsible reserves to meet financial responsibilities;

WHEREAS, the Montana Kaimin began a new program with ASUM this year to bring reduced advertising rates to ASUM, ASUM agencies and ASUM student groups, without the usual contingency of running large quantities of column inches;

WHEREAS, together with the recommendation by Apple Computer and Systems Administrator, Peet McKinney, the Montana Kaimin has begun replacing the computers of the organization because their age presents an increasing limitation to the organization in utilizing currently developed software necessary to the Kaimin;

WHEREAS, the Montana Kaimin is developing an asset turnover procedure to maintain operational and effective technologies and equipment;

THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED, that the ASUM Senate supports a \$2 fee increase for the Montana Kaimin to be sent to student referendum at the end of April;

Passed by Committee: _____, 2008

Passed by Senate: _____, 2008

Andrew Dusek,
Relations and Affairs Chair

Siri Smillie,
Chair of the Senate